



## RTCA in New Mexico

The Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance (RTCA) program is the community assistance arm of the National Park Service. The National Park Service (NPS) staff provide technical assistance to community groups, city, county, tribal governments, and non-profit organizations working to enhance close-to-home outdoor recreation and natural resource conservation opportunities. We help local leaders plan and design trails and parks; conserve and improve access to natural areas; protect special places; and create recreation opportunities.

The RTCA program in New Mexico offers a wide range of services that can be tailored to meet the needs of an individual project. The NPS staff members are trained facilitators who encourage project leaders to build collaborative partnerships among governmental and non-governmental stakeholders. The program helps communities and groups define their vision, goals, and objectives; analyze issues and opportunities; and develop strategic action plans and time lines for projects. We do not provide financial assistance, but can help project partners identify and secure sources of funding and technical support.

Any community with committed project partners can apply for assistance. Believing the best plans are completed locally, the RTCA program works with partners to encourage broad-based community participation in planning, designing, and implementing the projects we support.



Young bike riders from Acoma Pueblo

In 2016, the National Park Service in New Mexico will work on a variety of projects including:

- **Acoma Bike Park** – helping Acoma Pueblo to plan and construct a "bike park" in the community and establish a youth mountain biking program
- **Albuquerque Urban Youth Engagement** –increasing recreational access and opportunities for Albuquerque area youth. The partners will develop and host programs and activities at premier public lands locations like the Sandia Mountains, Rio Grande bosque, and Petroglyph National Monument
- **Cuba Miles** – completing a one-mile multi-use path at St. Francis of Assisi Park. The path serves as the anchor for a connected sidewalks and paths system providing year-round recreation and active transportation opportunities.
- **Enchanted Circle Trails Network** – identifying trail system gaps in/near the communities of Taos, Questa, Red River, Eagle Nest, and Angel Fire, New Mexico. A new "Enchanted Circle Trails Alliance," will prioritize and implement trail improvements.
- **Santa Fe Grand Unified Trail System** – creating an integrated trail system in and around the Santa Fe, New Mexico area. The Santa Fe Grand Unified Trail System project encompasses existing trail networks of natural surface trails including La Tierra, Dale Ball, Arroyo Hondo and Galisteo Basin Preserve.

The RTCA office in Albuquerque, NM is part of the Intermountain Region. For more information about the RTCA program refer to: [www.nps.gov/rtca](http://www.nps.gov/rtca), or for information about ongoing or potential RTCA projects in New Mexico contact:

Attila Bality  
[attila\\_bality@nps.gov](mailto:attila_bality@nps.gov)  
(505) 346-2871 ext. 213